

Summary on the final judging process for SZ•DAY 2013

The final judging of 2013 Shenzhen Design Award For Young Talents (SZ•DAY) ended successfully on the 5th, Nov. Elected as the chairman of the jury of seven members, each of whom has years of practices and rich experience in various design fields, I am honored and obliged to disclose the details of the final judging, especially to those who had worked hard to nominate candidates, to prepare entries for competition, to help with the promotion, and those who pay constant attention to this event.

Assembled at the second half of October for this task, which is the first of its kind in association and cooperation with UNESCO Creative Cities Network, the Jury was fully aware of the complexity, magnitude and demands of this mission.

There were totally 150 entries submitted in time by 60 nominees from 16 creative cities.

At the beginning of the first day' s (Nov. 4) work, the jury held

a half-hour meeting at a conference room of Guan Shanyue Art Museum in Shenzhen, discussing on the criteria in more details and rules of procedures. We agreed to select the winners based on the entries they provided as well as their profiles. We believe anonymity is essential to fairness and impartiality. Therefore, entries were judged anonymously first. All entries were numbered according to the registration sequence. For example, if an entrant submitted five entries, each of his or her entries would be recorded by the number generated by the system during the registration. All of the entries, presented either on display boards, iPads or in its physical form, were displayed in two halls of the museum with the help of a professional curator, a Shenzhen-based exhibition organizer, SenseTeam.

We agreed to have two rounds of screening for the first day. For the first round, each panel member voted on the anonymous entries that he preferred. Then the counting was carried out by two staffs of the secretariat and under the surveillance of a lawyer. Those entries that received no vote were cast out, and the rest entered the next round. As for the second round, we decided to mark the entries applying

10-point grading scale. The entries were then ranked according to the marks they receive. The top 22 entrants with high enough marks were chosen. At this point, we still had no idea who the entrants are and where they come from.

Before the beginning of the second day' s work, staffs of the secretariat had sorted out all information submitted by the remaining entrants, including their profiles and photos, and presented them to the Jury.

In the morning of Nov. 5, the judging panel met again at a conference room in Guan Shanyue Art Museum with the attendance of the secretariat and a lawyer. The Jury went through together the profiles of the top 22 entrants one by one. After over two-hour' s reviewing and discussion, the Jury walked back to the exhibition halls to do the last round of judgment. Then they walked back to the conference room to give scores respectively, based on both entries and profiles, to each of the 22 entrants, again using the 10-point grading scale. Each juror then handed the scores to the staffs and entrusted them to calculate and rank the 22 entrants in total scores under the surveillance of the lawyer. A few minutes later the

final result was handed to me. As the chairman, I announced the results to my peers and we agreed on the winners and number of winners of the Grand Award, Merit Award, New Star Award and Best Nominator respectively.

Based on my judging experiences of all the years, I am sure that the decisions of the SZ·DAY 2013 Jury were made based on fair, impartial and professional judgment.

We were all impressed by the creativities of so many young designers from different creative cities. We look forward to finding and acknowledging more young talents from around the world.

Min Wang

Chairman, SZ·DAY 2013 Jury